

MOTION

The communities of Reseda and Canoga Park contain historic central business districts that have, over the years, seen significant disinvestment. Through an exhaustive community-based process, a vision has been identified for the revitalization of the communities in the Reseda/Canoga Park Redevelopment Project Area. Councilmember Bob Blumenfield has transformed this vision into the multi-front West Valley Improvement Plan initiative. This initiative is a ten-point plan of improvements and amenities throughout the area's commercial corridors; a reinvestment in these historic communities to help them attain their former glory as destinations for commerce, art, and culture.

The former Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles established the Reseda/Canoga Park Redevelopment Project Area covering portions of Reseda, Winnetka, and Canoga Park to provide for and facilitate the repair, restoration, demolition and/or replacement of property, areas, or facilities damaged as a result of the 1994 Northridge Earthquake. These communities contain historic central business districts that have experienced significant disinvestment over the years due to the economic downturn that followed the earthquake. In an effort to continue the revitalization of these communities within Council District Three, the West Valley Improvement Plan Initiative was created to provide improvements and amenities throughout the commercial corridors of the area; to reinvest in these historic communities to help them attain their former glory as a destination for commerce, art, and culture.

Improving the daily commuter safety of grade school students is a top priority in Council District Three. The City's participation in programs like Safe Routes to Schools are opportunities to make walking and bicycling to school safer and more accessible for children and their parents, including those with disabilities, and to increase the number of children who choose to walk and bicycle. Safe Routes to School programs also serve to enhance the health and well-being of children, help ease traffic congestion around schools, and improve air quality and, in turn, the quality of life of the surrounding community. These types of improvements are essential because, as the safety of walking and bicycling to school improves, it becomes more attractive as a transit option and has the potential of spreading into other parts of the community including the commercial districts.

In accordance with policies adopted by Council (C.F. 14-1174) related to the CRA/LA Bond Expenditure Agreement and Bond Spending Plan, any proposal to expend CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds shall be initiated by Council Motion. Proposals will be reviewed by the CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee, Economic Development Committee, and any other applicable committee with final recommendations presented to the Council and Mayor for final consideration and approval. The use of taxable CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds towards the implementation of streetscape improvements along grade school student commuter routes near Sherman Way, Reseda Boulevard, and/or the Los Angeles River in the Reseda/Canoga Park Redevelopment Project Area are identified as eligible expenses in the Bond Expenditure Agreement and Bond Spending Plan.

I THEREFORE MOVE that tax-exempt CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds available to Council District 3 in an amount not to exceed \$800,000 from the Reseda/Canoga Park Redevelopment Project Area be utilized by the Department of Transportation to implement streetscape improvements along grade school student commuter routes near Sherman Way, Reseda Boulevard, and/or the Los Angeles River in the Reseda/Canoga Park Redevelopment Project Area.

ORIGINAL

JAN 14 2017

I FURTHER MOVE that the Economic and Workforce Development Department, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst, Department of Transportation, and any other applicable City department, provide a report with recommendations to the CRA/LA Bond Oversight Committee to allocate tax- exempt CRA/LA Excess Bond Proceeds in an amount not to exceed \$800,000 to implement streetscape improvements along student commuter routes near Sherman Way, Reseda Boulevard, and/or the Los Angeles River as identified in the Bond Expenditure Agreement and Bond Spending Plan for the Reseda/Canoga Park Redevelopment Project Area.

PRESENTED BY:



BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:

